

# MINUTES

## CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**March 31, 1998  
San Francisco, California**

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The meeting of the California Transportation Commission was called to order on March 31, 1998 at 1:00 p.m. at the California Public Utilities Commission Auditorium, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California.

Members Present: Robert Wolf, Chairman  
Edward Sylvester, Vice Chairman  
Mary Berglund, arrived at 1:10 p.m.  
P. Gregory Conlon  
Octavia Diener  
David Fleming  
Roger Kozberg  
Dana Reed

Members Absent: Edward Jordan  
Senator Quentin Kopp, Ex-Officio  
Assemblyman Kevin Murray, Ex-Officio

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### **1. GENERAL MATTERS**

#### **1.(1) Approval of Minutes for February 17-18, 1998**

The minutes were presented for action. Commissioner Diener moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Kozberg seconded the motion which carried 6-0 (Commissioners Berglund, Conlon and Jordan were absent).

#### **1.(2) Commissioners' Meetings for Compensation**

Chairman Wolf presented the List of Meetings for Compensation for February and March 1998 for approval. Commissioner Diener moved to approve the List. Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion which carried 6-0 (Commissioners Berglund, Conlon and Jordan were absent).

**1.(3) Consent Calendar**

Stephen Maller, Caltrans, reviewed Potential Consent Calendar Items 2.1c(1), 2.4d(2), 2.5b(3), 2.8(2), 2.8(3), and 2.8(5) and recommended they be added to the Consent Calendar. Chief Deputy Director Pete Hathaway review Potential Consent Calendar Item 2.5c(3) and recommended that it be added to the Consent Calendar. The Commission agreed to add these items to the Consent Calendar.

Deputy Director Robert Chung reviewed the following changes to the Consent Calendar:

- Item 2.3c Relinquishment Resolution #R-3353 was withdrawn by the Department prior to the meeting.
- Item 2.4b Resolutions of Necessity # C-17354, C-17356, and C-17389 were withdrawn by the department prior to the meeting.
- Item 2.4b Resolution of Necessity #C-17352 had a name change from California State Lands Commission to California and Hawaiian Sugar Company, Inc., Lessee.
- Item 2.5a Minor Project #30 was withdrawn by the Department; Minor Project #50 had a funding source changed from 301-0042 to 301-0890; the revised financial vote was \$12,380,500 plus \$2,538,500 in local contributions.
- Item 2.5b(1) STIP Project #2 was withdrawn by the Department prior to the meeting; Project #5 notation was changed to read "the remaining balance of \$600,000 is reserved for a replacement planting project under EA 306221"; the revised financial vote was \$53,881,000 plus \$382,000 from other agencies
- Item 2.5b(2) SHOPP Projects #9, 13, and 14 were withdrawn by the Department prior to the meeting; Project #11 programmed amount was changed to \$961,000, Project #12 description was changed to "At the North Morro Bay Undercrossing and Route 1/41 separation"; Project #17 PPNO was changed to 0315A; Project #24 notation was changed to read "\$100,000 is reserved to fund mitigation planting project 10-EA 36691, PPNO 2119Y, leaving a savings of \$152,000"; Project #27 PPNO was changed to 2104; the revised financial vote was \$69,009,000.

Commissioner Kozberg moved to approve the revised Consent Calendar. Commissioner Sylvester seconded the motion which carried 6-0 (Commissioners Berglund, Conlon, and Jordan were absent).

Later in the meeting, Ms. Joyce Moody, private citizen, discussed the location for the Fairfield Train Station listed in Item 2.1c(1).

**1.(4) Commission Reports**

Chairman Wolf reported on his testimony at Assemblymember Escutia's Committee Hearing on Surface Transportation and the Alameda Corridor.

Commissioner Sylvester reported on his trip to China and discussed the Chinese Public Transit system.

Executive Director Remen discussed the difficulty in obtaining suitable accommodations for the July Commission meeting in San Jose. He recommended scheduling the July meeting in Sacramento and scheduling the October meeting in Santa Cruz as an alternative. Commissioner Diener moved to approve the change as recommended. Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion which carried 7-0 (Commissioners Conlon and Jordan were absent).

**1.(5) Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Report**

Del Pierce, BT&H, indicated there was no BT&H Report this month.

**1.(6) Caltrans Report**

Caltrans Director Jim van Loben Sels reported on recent storm damage, budget hearings, a pending court decision, and the use of Internet exams. The Commission discussed emergency and slide repairs and asked the Department to report back on the status of the examination and identification of chronic slide and repair areas and the potential for alternate mitigation.

**ACTION: B. Coleman**

**1.(7) Regional Agencies Report**

Craig Scott, Regional Agencies Moderator, the 1998 STIP process from the regional side, state strategic planning, and the next round of the TEA program. Coordination between Caltrans and regions on TIPS was not wholly satisfactory, and Mr. Scott noted regions would prefer an ITIP due date one to two months before the RTIP due date. Regions also want to move forward with TEA programming quickly after NEXTEA is enacted. Chairman Wolf suggested a workshop on the SB 45 experience after the 1998 STIP has been adopted.

**2. PROJECT BUSINESS MATTERS****2.1 Program Amendments/Project Approvals****2.1a. STIP Amendment for Action**

- STIP Amendment 96S-47 - Action  
Downscopes three light rail vehicle (LRV) acquisition projects on the Metro Green Line, Blue Line, and Pasadena Extensions in Los Angeles by reducing the number of LRVs to be acquired from 74 to 52. The overall LRV project cost is reduced from \$257,597,886 to \$201,351,520 by reducing the State STIP funding portion from \$84,000,000 to \$76,200,000, reducing Proposition 116 funding from \$33,550,000 to \$16,398,000, and reducing local funding from \$140,047,886 to \$108,753,520. This amendment also shifts the reduced STIP funds of \$7,800,000 from the LRV acquisition project to the Metro Rail Red Line North Hollywood Station Extension project. Requested by Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). (Consistent with concurrent actions under Items 2.1f, 2.6c, 2.6d, and 2.6e.)

The following proceedings pertain to Items 2.1a, 2.1f, 2.6c, 2.6d, and 2.6e.

Commissioner Reed abstained from all LACMTA items.

Chairman Wolf reviewed the actions taken at the previous Commission meeting and the status of the Memorandum of Understanding.

David Yale and Brian Boudreau, LACMTA, discussed the rail car purchases and cash flow needs.

After further discussion, Commissioner Fleming moved to table items 2.1a, 2.6c, 2.6d, and 2.6e. Commissioner Sylvester seconded the motion which carried 7-0-1 (Commissioner Reed abstained from voting and Commissioner Jordan was absent).

Executive Director Remen reviewed Proposition 116 project approval/amendment (Item 2.1f). the Commission discussed Items 2.1a, 2.1f, 2.6c, 2.6d, and 2.6e and how each item affected the other items. The Commissioners again tabled Item 2.6c and approved the remaining items. The motions and votes were as follows:

- Commissioner Kozberg moved to approve Item 2.1a. Commissioner Berglund seconded the motion which carried 7-0-1 (Commissioner Reed abstained from voting and Commissioner Jordan was absent).
- Commissioner Kozberg moved to approve Item 2.1f. Commissioner Sylvester seconded the motion which carried 7-0-1 (Commissioner Reed abstained from voting and Commissioner Jordan was absent).
- Commissioner Diener moved to approve Item 2.6d. Commissioner Kozberg seconded the motion which carried 7-0-1 (Commissioner Reed abstained from voting and Commissioner Jordan was absent).
- Commissioner Diener moved to approve Item 2.6e. Commissioner Kozberg seconded the motion which carried 7-0-1 (Commissioner Reed abstained from voting and Commissioner Jordan was absent).

**2.1b. STIP Amendment for Notice**

- STIP Amendment 96S-57 - Notice  
Reprograms the construction for the Devil's Slide Bypass Project on Route 1 in San Mateo County, from FY 1997-98 to FY 2000-01 and reprograms the right of way from FY 1997-98 to FY 1999-2000. No change in funding amount. Requested by Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Stephen Maller, Caltrans, described the STIP amendment and noted that it would be presented at next month's meeting for approval. Commissioner Reed requested that the item be on the Consent Calendar.

**2.1c. TCI Amendments****2.1c.(1) TCI Amendment 96S-54 - Action**

Reprograms a commuter urban rail project (which requires a local match) to an intercity rail project (which does not require a local match). The project is programmed in the FY 1997-98 TCI (Transit Capital Improvement) Program for \$498,000, for environmental, preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition. This amendment also transfers the applicant status from the Solano Transportation Authority to the City of Fairfield. In addition, this amendment exchanges \$150,000 of FY 1995-96 TCI Program funds for the Sacramento Regional Transit District (SRTD) 65th Street Station Park and Ride Facility Project and \$313,000 of FY 1995-96 TCI Program funds for the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transportation District (SCMTD) Fixed Guideway System project with \$463,000 in FY 1997-98 TCI Program Funds for the Fairfield Station Project. This exchange between fiscal years prevents the loss of FY 1995-96 TCI funds which will revert June 30, 1998. The exchanged programming commitment is preserved for only one more year, until March 31, 1999. (Consistent with concurrent allocation under Item 2.6a(2).)

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.1c.(2) TCI Amendment 96S-56 - Notice**

Revises scope of a Denair station Intercity Rail improvement project programmed in the FY 1995-96 TCI Program for \$105,000 to provide rail platform extension and related station improvements. Requested by the Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Stephen Maller, Caltrans, described the TCI amendment and noted that it would be presented next month for approval. Commissioner Reed requested that the item be on the Consent Calendar.

**2.1d. Aeronautics Amendment for Action**

- **Aeronautics Amendment 96A-2 - Action**  
Modifies scope of a \$252,000 overlay runway project programmed in FY 1997-98 at the Pine Mountain Lake Airport in Tuolumne County to a runway, taxiways and apron rehabilitation project.

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.1e. Proposition 116 - Non Urban County Project Approvals/Amendments**

No Items This Month

**2.1f. Proposition 116 - Project Approval/Amendment**

- Project Approval Amendment to Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to reduce the scope of the Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) Procurement Project from the acquisition of 74 vehicles for \$33,550,000 to the acquisition of 52 vehicles for \$16,398,000. In addition, reprogram the balance of \$17,152,000, and approve \$15,000,000 in unprogrammed Proposition 116 funds for a total of \$32,152,000 to the Metro Rail Red Line North Hollywood Extension Project. (Consistent with concurrent actions under Items 2.1a, 2.6c, 2.6d, and 2.6e.)  
Resolution PA-98-08 Amending Resolutions PA-95-02, PA-94-05 and PA-93-55

Refer to Item 2.1 a for proceedings related to this item.

**2.1g. Environmental Enhancement Mitigation (EEM) Program**

- Change in Willow Hole Project Scope - Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy

Rick Gumz, EEM Program Manager, discussed the project scope change.

The Commissioners discussed the scope change and noted that the material provided did not sufficiently disclose the location of the property in question. Chairman Wolf asked Caltrans to provide better location information for all agenda items to facilitate individual Commissioners determination of questions of potential conflict of interest. Chairman Wolf asked Commissioners Fleming and Reed to abstain from voting on this item since there was some question about the property location.

**ACTION: S. Maller**

Commissioner Berglund moved to approve the project scope change. Commissioner Diener seconded the motion which carried 5-0-2 (Commissioners Fleming and Reed abstained from voting and Commissioners Conlon and Jordan were absent).

**2.2 Environmental Matters**

No Items This Month

**2.3 Highway Route Matters****2.3a. Route Adoptions**

No Items This Month

**2.3b. New Public Road Connections**

No Items This Month

**2.3c.** Four Relinquishment Resolutions

- 4-SCI-87, PM 4.0/4.5 Route 87 in the City of San Jose  
Resolution R-3351
- 4-Sol-141, PM 0.5/1.4 Route 141 in the City of Vallejo  
Resolution R-3352
- 7-Ven-118, PM 0.6/1.5 Route 118 in the County of Ventura  
Resolution R-3354
- 10-Mer-152, PM 19.6/21.3 Route 152 in the City of Los Banos  
Resolution R-3355

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.3d.** Two Vacation Resolutions

- 10-Cal-26, PM 4.4 Route 26 in the County of Calaveras  
Resolution A-837
- 10-Cal-49, PM 3.9/R5.1 Route 49 in the County of Calaveras  
Resolution A-838

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.4** Highway Right of Way Matters**2.4a.** Resolutions of Necessity - Appearances

No Items This Month

**2.4b.** 45 Resolutions of Necessity  
C-17350 Through C-17353  
C-17355, C-17357 Through C-17388  
C-17390 Through C-17397

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.4c.** Airspace Leases

No Items This Month

**2.4d.** Director's Deeds

- 2.4d.(1)** Items # 1 Through # 8  
Excess Lands - Return to State: \$625,700  
Return to Others: \$0

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 2.4d.(2)** Item # 9  
Route 710, Los Angeles County  
Excess Lands - Return to State: \$101,000  
Return to Others: \$0

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.4e.** Notice of Intention

- Notice of Intention to Acquire Property Now in Public Park Use from City of Los Angeles for Route 110 Pasadena Freeway Widening Project. (Consistent with concurrent Resolution of Necessity under Item 2.4b.)

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.5** Highway Financial Matters**2.5a.** Financial Vote for Minor Projects.

- Fifty-four Minor Projects totaling \$12,380,500 plus \$2,538,500 in Local Contributions.  
Resolution FP-97-69

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.5b.** Financial Vote for State STIP/SHOPP/Toll Bridge/TSM/TEA Projects.

- 2.5b.(1)** Eight STIP Projects totaling \$53,881,000 plus  
\$382,000 in Local Contributions.  
Resolution FP-97-70

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 2.5b.(2)** Twenty-four SHOPP Projects totaling \$69,009,000.  
Resolution FP-97-71

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.



- 2.5b.(3)** Nine SHOPP Amended Projects totaling \$16,058,000 plus \$872,200 in Local Contributions.  
Resolution FP-97-72

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 2.5b.(4)** One Toll Bridge Project on Cummings Skyway in Contra Costa County, approaching the Carquinez Bridge for \$2,900,000 plus \$2,900,000 in Local Contributions.  
Resolution FP-97-73

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 2.5b.(5)** One State TSM Project at the District 12 Transportation Management Center (TMC) for \$980,000.  
Resolution FP-97-74

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 2.5b.(6)** One State TEA Project split into eleven sub-components totaling \$240,000.  
Resolution FP-97-75

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.5c.** Financial Vote for Local Assistance STIP/TSM/TEA/EEM Projects

- 2.5c.(1)** Eleven Local TEA Projects totaling \$3,550,800 plus \$916,842 in Local Contributions.  
Resolution FP-97-76

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 2.5c.(2)** Two Local EEM Projects totaling \$470,000 plus \$1,179,113 in Contributions from Others.  
Resolution FP-97-77

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 2.5c.(3)** One Local TEA Project for the City of Redding to construct a bicycle/pedestrian bridge across Sacramento River at \$1,251,000 plus \$1,209,000 in Local Contributions.  
Resolution FP-97-79

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.5d.** Financial Vote for Projects with Cost Increases Greater than 120 Percent of Program Amount. Two Projects totaling \$8,775,000 plus \$512,000 in Local Contributions.  
Resolution FP-97-78

- 02-Sha-299 - SHOPP project in Shasta County on Route 299. Rehabilitate roadway. Current program value \$6,488,000 and current estimate \$7,900,000 for a 22 percent increase over programmed amount.
- 10-Ama-49 - SHOPP project in Amador County on Route 49. Reconstruct intersection. Current program value \$380,000 and current estimate \$875,000 plus \$512,000 Contribution from Amador County for a 55 percent increase over total project cost.

Jim Nicholas, Caltrans, described the projects and explained why the projects had cost increases. After discussing the cost increases, Commissioner Sylvester moved to approve the funds for the cost increases. Commissioner Kozberg seconded the motion which carried 7-0 (Commissioners Conlon and Jordan were absent).

**2.5e.** Financial Vote for Supplemental Funds for Previously Approved Projects.  
One Project totaling \$340,000.  
Resolution FA-97-08

- 04-SM-280,380 - TSM project in San Mateo County on Route 280 and Route 380. \$340,000 to Allow Claims Payment. Original vote \$3,752,000 plus \$977,000 for a grand total of \$5,069,000. 35 Percent increase over Vote.

Jim Nicholas, Caltrans, described the project and explained the need for supplemental funds.

Commissioner Sylvester moved to approve the supplemental funds. Commissioner Diener seconded the motion which carried 6-0-1 (Commissioner Kozberg abstained from voting and Commissioners Conlon and Jordan were absent).

**2.5f.** Emergency Allocations

- Informational Report - Emergency G-11 Allocations  
Sixty-seven Projects totaling \$38,610,000;  
Plus forty-nine additional projects totaling \$28,768,000  
Total of 116 projects and \$67,378,000

Jim Nicholas, Caltrans, presented the information report for the emergency G-11 allocations which included an additional 49 projects totaling \$28,768,000 which were approved following the preparation of the commission meeting material.

- 2.5g.** Financial Vote for Additional Funds for Previously Approved Toll Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project Funded with Proposition 192 Revenues.  
One Project at \$16,000,000.  
Resolution FA-97-09

- 04-CC,Sol-680 - In Contra Costa and Solano Counties on Route 680 at the Benicia-Martinez Toll Bridge for an additional cost of \$16,000,000 to allow advertising. Original vote \$76,347,000 for grand total of \$92,347,000. 21 Percent increase over Vote.

Dennis Mulligan, Caltrans, discussed the project and the higher than anticipated bids. Commissioner Diener moved to approve the funding as requested. Commissioner Berglund seconded the motion which carried 6-0 (Commissioners Conlon, Jordan, and Reed were absent).

**2.6** Mass Transportation Financial Matters

- 2.6a.(1)** Two Local TCI Program Projects for North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) totaling \$463,550. (See related item 5.1.)  
Resolution MFP-97-46

Deputy Director Robert Chung briefly discussed the need for the amendment to redirect \$463,500 to the Q sinking fund. Chairman Wolf asked Caltrans to present this item at the May Commission meeting as a TCI Amendment Notice to redirect the \$463,500 from the rail rehabilitation projects to the Q sinking fund.

**ACTION: J. Nicholas**

- 2.6a.(2)** Five Local TCI Program Projects totaling \$2,053,625  
(Consistent with concurrent TCI Amendment 96S-54 under Item 2.1a)  
Resolution MFP-97-51

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.6b.** Financial Vote for Proposition 116 Projects

- 2.6b.(1)** Two Local Proposition 116 Vallejo Waterborne Ferry Program Projects totaling \$700,000
- \$396,304 to City of Vallejo for Public Ferry Dock at Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco.  
Resolution BFP-97-25
  - \$303,696 to City of Vallejo for Baylink Ferry Upgrade.  
Resolution BFP-97-26

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.6b.(2)** One Local Proposition 116 Rail Project totaling \$1,500,000

- \$1,500,000 to West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee for Richmond Intermodal Transfer Station. Resolution BFP-97-27

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.6c.** Financial Vote for STIP Rail/Transit Project

- \$21,100,000 to Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) for Light Rail Vehicles Procurement. (Consistent with concurrent actions under Items 2.1a, 2.1f, 2.6d, and 2.6e.) Resolution MFP-97-52

Refer to Item 2.1a for proceedings related to this item.

**2.6d.** Financial Vote for Multiple Program Funded Project

- \$39,952,000 to Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) for Metro Rail Red Line Segment 3, North Hollywood Extension (\$32,152,000 in Proposition 116 funds, and \$7,800,000 in STIP Funds). (Consistent with concurrent actions under Items 2.1a, 2.1f, 2.6c, and 2.6e.) Resolution MBFP-97-02

Refer to Item 2.1a for proceedings related to this item.

**2.6e.** Allocation Amendments for STIP Project

- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) - Amends project scope for the Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) Procurement project to reduce the number of light rail vehicles to be purchased from 74 to 52. No change in prior allocation amount of \$55,100,000. (Consistent with concurrent actions under Items 2.1a, 2.1f, 2.6c, and 2.6d.) Resolution MFA-97-01, Amending Resolutions MFP-94-22 and MFP-95-31

Refer to Item 2.1a for proceedings related to this item.

**2.6f.** SB 2800 Advance Local Match Requests

No Items This Month

**2.7** Aeronautics Financial Matters

No Items This Month

**2.8** Waiver of Commission Policy

- 2.8(1)** Request for waiver of the Financial Guidelines for Local Agency Reimbursement to extend the period of project reimbursement on 58 allocations made to 18 agencies for 44 urban and commuter rail and mass transit projects which received an allocation of Proposition 116, Proposition 108, or Transit Capital Improvement Program funds in FY 1995-96 or earlier. Through March 13, 1998, the Department has approved reimbursement for \$129,345,857 against the total \$228,715,202 allocated to these agencies.

Deputy Director Chung introduced and described the waiver request and noted that Caltrans was opposed to extensions for 6 allocations including 3 for BART, 1 for Corning, 1 for No. San Diego Transit Board, and 1 for SF Muni.

Therese McMillan, MTC indicated agreement with the denial of the waiver request.

James Emerson, City of Corning, discussed the need for an intermodal facility and reasons why a waiver was requested.

Commissioner Kozberg moved to adopt the staff recommendation, the exception of the City of the Corning request which would come back after the outstanding issues were resolved. Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion which carried 8-0 (Commissioner Jordan was absent).

- 2.8(2)** Request for waiver of the Financial Guidelines for Local Agency Reimbursement to extend the period of project reimbursement for eight Proposition 116 Bicycle projects from June 30, 1998 to June 30, 1999. The Commission has allocated \$3,257,877 for eight bicycle projects. Total of reimbursements through February 17, 1998 for all projects is \$787,908; the remaining balance for all projects is \$2,469,969.

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 2.8(3)** Request for waiver to Section 2.1 of CTC Resolution G-97-03, adopting the FY 1997-98 Transit Capital Improvement Program, for the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission to extend the period of project allocation on FY 1994-95 Transit Capital Improvement Program funds reprogrammed to FY 1997-98, from April 2, 1998 to June 3, 1998.

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 2.8(4)** Request for waiver to Section 2.1 of CTC Resolution G-97-03, adopting the FY 1997-98 Transit Capital Improvement Program, for the Northwestern Pacific Railroad Authority to extend the period of project allocation on FY 1994-95 Transit Capital Improvement Program funds reprogrammed to FY 1997-98, from April 2, 1998 to an unspecified date.

David Cabrera, Caltrans, discussed the waiver request and discussed Caltrans' reasons for opposing the waiver.

Commissioner Diener moved to accept Caltrans' recommendation and deny the waiver. Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion which carried 7-0 (Commissioners Conlon and Jordan were absent).

- 2.8(5)** Request for one-time waiver of Wireless Telecommunications Master License Agreement (as per Resolution G-97-06) for Telecommunications Facilities License Fee Sharing with the Department of Navy along the Route 5 Corridor through Camp Pendleton.

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

**2.9** Technical Changes to Previously Approved Resolutions

No Items This Month

**3. PROGRAM STATUS**

**3.1** Caltrans Monthly FY 1997-98 Program Finance Report

Joan Borucki, Caltrans, presented the monthly program finance report. She noted that the State Highway Account had a \$1.6 billion ending cash balance and a \$1.5 billion average cash balance.

**3.2** Monthly Report on Status of Projects Previously Voted but not Awarded

Jim Nicholas, summarized the status of nine projects that had been previously voted but not awarded.

**3.3** Status of FY 1995-96 and FY 1996-97 Unallocated Transit Capital Improvement (TCI) Program Funds

David Cabrera, Caltrans, discussed the status of unallocated FY 1995-96 and 1996-97 TCI funds which revert after a three year period. He indicated that all the FY 1995-96 grantees intended to request an allocation prior to June 30, 1998 and that no further action was necessary at this time.

**4. POLICY MATTERS**

**4.1** State Legislative Matters

Deputy Director Chuck Oldham summarized the status of SB 837 (Kopp) and AB 2035 (Cardenas) concerning SB 45 Cleanup.

Deputy Director Oldham summarized SB 479 (Alpert) and AB 376 (Baca) concerning contracting out and AB 1759 (Runner) concerning STIP funds in Los Angeles. The Commission took no action on these bills.

Deputy Director Oldham summarized SB 1532 (Kelley) noting that TACA and Commission staff recommended a support position. Commissioner Fleming moved to approve a support position. Commissioner Berglund seconded the motion which carried 6-0 (Commissioners Conlon, Diener, and Jordan were absent).

Deputy Director Oldham summarized SB 1758 (Ayala) and discussed issues related to the proposed legislation. Executive Director Remen discussed the high \$1.6 billion State Highway Account balance and the need to put the money into transportation projects. He suggested working with the bill's author to develop safeguards and to ultimately get projects out on the street. Commissioner Berglund moved to support in concept with reference to Executive Director Remen's comments. Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion which carried 6-0 (Commissioners Conlon, Diener, and Jordan were absent).

Deputy Director Oldham summarized SB 2128 (Johnston) concerning airspace leases. After discussing the bill, Commissioner Kozberg moved to adopt an oppose position. Chairman Wolf seconded the motion which carried 6-0 (Commissioners Conlon, Diener, and Jordan were absent).

Commission staff was directed to transmit letters to the bill authors informing them of action taken at the Commission meeting and to update and mail to the Commissioners the matrix on bills with Commission positions.

**ACTION: C. Oldham**

**4.2 Comparison of U.S. Senate and House NEXTEA Bills**

Chief Deputy Director Pete Hathaway reported on the Senate and House NEXTEA bills. He discussed several components of the legislation, including program structure, funding levels, new requirements, and demonstration projects. Carl Williams, BT&H Agency, also discussed the status of the bills and potential funding levels for demonstration projects.

**4.3 Long-life Pavement Standards for STIP and SHOPP**

Jim Nicholas, Caltrans, reported on the use of long-life pavement. He indicated that the 1998 SHOPP had \$200 million of long-life pavement projects and that Caltrans would work with the Commission and Regions to apply long-life pavement to STIP projects.

Chairman Wolf asked Caltrans to work with the Regions for recasting programming amounts for STIP projects appropriate for long-life pavement.

**ACTION: J. Nicholas**

**4.4 Review and Comments on Ten-Year State Highway System Rehabilitation Plan**

Chief Deputy Pete Hathaway discussed the Commission's responsibility to review and comment on the 10-year plan for highway system rehabilitation. He also discussed the following four issues:

1. Should urban operational improvements be funded through RTIPs and STIP or SHOPP?; how does RTPA know when to use RTIP and when to presume SHOPP?
2. How does Caltrans choose between SHOPP and STIP for operational improvements?
3. How does Caltrans estimate future funding level for operational improvements in SHOPP given system-wide needs/plan, RTIP programming, when projects will go in SHOPP or STIP?
4. Does Caltrans consider only initial capital cost or life-cycle costs including operating expense when assessing benefits of operational improvements?

After the Commissioners discussed the Plan and possible comments, they asked Caltrans to discuss the four issues with regional agencies and report back to the Commission in six months.

**ACTION: J. Nicholas/H. Benouar/P. Hathaway**

Commissioner Berglund moved to approve the comments with the issues discussed for transmittal to the Legislature. Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion which carried 6-0 (Commissioners Conlon, Jordan, and Wolf were absent).

**4.5 Approval of 1998 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP)  
Resolution G-98-06**

Jim Nicholas, Caltrans, presented the 1998 SHOPP for approval. Commissioner Kozberg moved to approve the SHOPP. Commissioner Reed seconded the motion. The following individuals commented on SHOPP projects:

- Robin Levitt, an architect from San Francisco
- Patricia Walkup, Hayes Valley Community

The Commissioners voted on the measure after listening to testimony from the private citizens. The motion carried 7-0 (Commissioners Conlon and Jordan were absent).

**4.6 Status Reports on Seismic Safety Retrofit**

**4.6a. Annual Report on Seismic Safety Retrofit Program**

Terry Murphy, Caltrans, presented and summarized the annual report on the Seismic Safety Retrofit Program.

David Schonbrunn, Almonte District Improvement Club, expressed concern about the standards for seismic retrofit. Chairman Wolf asked Jim Roberts, Caltrans, to meet with Mr. Schonbrunn to discuss his concerns.

After further discussion, Commissioner Fleming moved to approve the report for transmittal to the Legislature including an attachment to the letter with an update comparing last year's toll bridge seismic retrofit costs with this year's costs. Commissioner Diener seconded the motion which carried 7-0 (Commissioners Conlon and Jordan were absent).

**ACTION: R. Gumz**

**4.6b. Status Report on Toll Bridge Seismic Retrofit Program**

This item will be presented at the May Commission meeting.

**4.6c. Status Report on Welding**

Jim Roberts, Caltrans, reported on techniques and uses of welding in the transportation programs.



- 4.7** Establishment of Local Government Matching Rate for California Aid to Airport Program (CAAP) Grants for FY 1998-99 Resolution G-98-07

This item was approved on the Consent Calendar.

- 4.8** Notification of Increase in Minor 'B' Project Limit

Jim Nicholas, Caltrans, reported that Caltrans had increased the Minor B Limit from \$107,000 to \$111,000.

- 4.9** Revision to Resolution G-12 Providing Delegation of Authority to the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Regarding Definition of Minor Project Limits and Deletes Constraints to Delegation

Jim Nicholas, Caltrans, presented a revised resolution for delegating authority to Caltrans to adjust project allocations and modify project descriptions.

After discussing the revised resolution, Chairman Wolf asked Caltrans to come back to the May Commission meeting with text changes to proposed amended G-12 resolution showing added and deleted wording. Staff was also directed to identify proposed additions and deletion with use of strikeout and bold/underline text in all proposed G resolution amendments.

**ACTION: B. Wilkinson/M. Filbert/D. Pritchard**

## **5. MODAL ISSUES**

- 5.1** Rail

### North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA)

- 5.1a.** Caltrans' Presentation of Most Recent NCRA Audit

Diane Eidam, Caltrans, summarized the findings of the most recent audit of NCRA. The Commission requested that she report back in July on the NCRA status and compliance with the most recent Caltrans audit and prior years' audits.

**ACTION: D. Eidam**

- 5.1b.** NCRA Report on Prospective Operator, Railway, Inc.

Dan Hauser, NCRA, reported on the status/progress of the contract with Railway, Inc. As the prospective short line operator for NCRA.

John Darling, President of Railway, Inc., discussed the benefits of the public/private venture.

Dennis Wood, Pacific Lumber Company, discussed the area's need for the North Coast Railroad.

**5.1c.** North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) - Identification of Local Commitments as Back-up for Funding the Q Fund Sinking Fund

Allan Hemphill, NCRA First Vice-Chair, explained NCRA's attempts to ensure that it had true commitments from the four counties: Humboldt, Marin, Mendocino, and Sonoma. He also discussed NCRA's efforts to bring its own projected revenues to bear on the Q fund repayment issues. After a lengthy discussion the Commission accepted NCRA's report and directed staff to redirect TCI funds from rehabilitation to fund the Q fund sinking fund.

**5.1d.** Status of Union Pacific's Cooperation in Assisting NCRA

This item was pulled prior to the meeting.

**6. OTHER MATTERS**

Chairman Wolf announced that Commissioner Berglund had been appointed to an additional term as Commissioner and administered the Oath of Office to her.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

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Robert I. Remen, Executive Director